

## A LAY SERMON

By Evangeline.

Subject: "Nature an Open Book of Revelation."

No man whom God has blessed with common sense and the faculty of thought can fail to see God revealed in all the various phases of His creation. His existence, His power, beneficence and mercy are as plainly and forcibly declared as it is possible for any language to portray.

The Bible is a blessed and most wonderful book, but if there were no Bible we could not fail to detect the revelation of God in the face of nature. King David, reared amid the sublimest scenes of nature and a student of the same, a lover of God and defender of His word, in one of his loftiest flights of poetry exclaims: "The heavens declare the glory of God; and firmament sheweth His handiwork: Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge."

On any clear night, in the absence of the moon, go with me into the open field, cast up your eyes to heaven, behold the wonders of creation; and if you are a candid man or woman, see if you can refrain from breaking forth into praise and adoration of that great power who was not only the author of the surpassing glory revealed to your senses, but of your own existence and ability to perceive and appreciate such revelation.

The existence of God, His interest in and care for all the works of His creation are plainly shown by the adaptability of everything perceptible.

Everything fits; nothing is amiss or out of place; nothing useless. Air is necessary to our existence. It is superabundant in every part and crevice of the earth. Water is as necessary to us as air; there are three times as much water as land on the earth. Food and raiment are also necessary; they or the material out of which they may be produced are as abundant as air and water, for air, earth and water, teem with food or food material.

As to the existence and power of God, the visible part of His creation declares them. His providence declares His goodness and His mercy is unmistakably shown by our restoration to health after having suffered as a result of violating some of the laws of nature.

St. Paul makes frequent reference to the visible creation of God as an index to the invisible. In Romans, 1:20; says "For the invisible things of Him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead."

And even our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, in His reference to the lilies of the field, God's care for the sparrow and the forecasting of the weather of the next day by scanning the aspect of the setting sun of the present day show clearly that we should take the visible things of God as indicative of the invisible.

Many of the great poets and philosophers, both ancient and modern worshipped nature, but they came short of the glory of God because they failed to see and worship nature's God through nature. They became so dazzled by the beauty, grandeur and sublimity of nature that they could not see beyond one more beautiful and sublime than nature itself, and so they fell down and worshipped nature itself. Let us beware that we are not guilty of the same short coming.

When we behold the visible heavens—the sun, moon and stars, and are fascinated by their grandeur, let us, with King David exclaim "The heavens declare the glory of God, etc.," but do not let us fall down and worship them. And if we be tempted to say God dwells beyond that starry arch; that He is so far away that He cannot hear and see us; let us listen at the voice of St. Paul as he stands on Mar's Hill and declares that "In Him we live, and move, and have our being." No matter how vast the expanse which we may conceive, remember that God is not contained in the space; but that the space is contained in God; that God is not contained in heaven; but heaven is contained in God.

If we stand on the seashore and are appalled by the vastness of the ocean, let us not fear that it may leap its bounds and overwhelm the dwellers on the land, and therefore fall down and worship it. But rather let us hear the voice of God in His challenge of Job when He said: "Hitherto shalt thou come, but no further, and here shall thy proud waves be stayed."

None of us are excusable. For after all, the most simple as well as the most intricate subject for nature study is constantly with us in the person or our own bodies, to say nothing of our soul. Who can comprehend his body? We may study it a life time and die ignorant of a real comprehension of one-half of it.

King David studied it and declared "I am fearfully and wonderfully made." Everything in nature testifies constantly of the presence of God, for

We see Him in each sunbeam, And hear Him in the rain, We see Him in the lilac Which adorns the shady lane.

We hear Him in the rivulet, As on it gently flows, We see Him in the jessamine, And in the fragrant rose.

We hear Him in the mighty sea As savagely it roars, And also in the lark's gay note As skywardly it soars.

We see Him in each sea shell, In every grain of sand, We see Him, aye, in everything, In water, air or land.

## National Religious Training School and Chautauqua Meets.

Durham, N. C., July 16.—The National Religious Training School and Chautauqua, of which Dr. James E. Sheppard is the president and founder, appears to be more of a success than its promoters hoped for. The close of the second week finds the enrollment in all departments approaching 100, made up of teachers, ministers and people from other walks of life among the Negroes.

Instruction is being given in normal and primary methods, history, geography, grammar, pedagogy, domestic science, dressmaking and millinery, basketry and vocal music. Rev. Jesse Hurlburt, of Newark, N. J., has just completed a series of lectures on bible instruction, and is now being followed by Rev. Dr. W. Y. Chapman, pastor of the celebrated Roseville Presbyterian Church, Newark, N. J. Miss Grace Hemingway, the well-known child story teller, has entertained the chautauquans during the past week on the art of story telling, illustrating its value in the training of children.

For the next week, such attractions as Samuel J. McClacken, one of the best chautauqua lecturers the South has produced, Hon. N. B. Broughton, the Sunday-school worker, Bishop G. W. Clinton, and W. E. B. DuBois are to appear. Prof. C. G. O'Kelly, principal of the Slater Normal and Industrial Institute has resigned that position to become vice-president of this institution. Dr. Sheppard is being congratulated on all sides on the wonderful showing made, in the character of the lectures and other features and in the neat and commodious buildings that have been erected.

HORACE D. SLATER.

## Business Opportunities.

Fortunes are being made selling medicines to colored people. Enterprising colored men can do likewise. A few hundred dollars will buy up a very valuable medicine that will check the frightful mortality of the colored race and prevent an immeasurable amount of suffering. \$5,000 to \$10,000 a year easily made with it. For a talk, address "MEDICAL," care PLANET.

## Rev. C. H. Phillips, D. D. Celebrates His Twenty-sixth Anniversary.

Last Sunday was a glorious day at the Union Baptist Church, Beaver Dam, Va., of which Dr. C. H. Phillips, D. D. is pastor. The occasion was the twenty-sixth anniversary of the pastor. It was an enjoyable day with the church and pastor. Crowds of people were seen coming from all parts of the country and cities. Promptly at 11:30, the excellent choir led by Mr. William Meredith and Organist Miss Laberta Walker, of Richmond, pealed forth excellent strains of sweet music. Dr. C. H. Phillips introduced Rev. R. W. Young, of Caroline County who preached a most acceptable sermon. Subject, "Great things are said of thee, Oh, City of God." The church was well pleased with the sermon. Dr. Phillips thereafter introduced Prof. B. H. Peyton of Richmond, Va. and Deacon W. H. Watson of the Second Baptist Church, Richmond, Va., who took charge of money affairs and lifted the collection for the occasion. In the afternoon Dr. Phillips spoke of his twenty-six years work with the church and paid a glowing tribute to the loyal support of his members. All the members and friends of the church warmly congratulated him on his excellent work. Collections for the day amounted to \$161.60. Of this amount Club No. 1, \$30.60; Richmond, \$75.00; Choir Club, \$17.80; Membership and Foreign Mission, \$38.20.

Prof. R. H. Fauntleroy, secretary of the State B. Y. P. U. Convention was present in the interest of the State Convention at Charlottesville, in August.



## Is the Church Simply a Money Machine?

## THE HARRISON STREET BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Eli Tartt May Preach, But Is Not Pastor—A Decision That Does Not Decide—Another Church Meeting to be Held—An Endless Trouble.

The case of Avery vs. Tartt, involving the control of the Harrison Street Baptist Church, colored, which has been on trial before Judge J. F. West, of the Third Circuit, for the past seven days, was disposed of tonight. Immediately upon conclusion of the argument Judge West delivered his opinion in the case. He held as follows:

1. That the written constitution of the church is still in full force and effect and binding upon all its members.

2. That the action of the Tartt followers in undertaking to expel the anti-Tartt members from the church and the action of the anti-Tartt faction in undertaking to expel the Tartt followers from membership in the church were void and did not in any way effect the standing of the parties as church members.

3. That the church conference, presided over by Rev. W. C. Taylor, January 11, 1909, at which Rev. Eli Tartt was elected a member of the church and its pastor, was not held in accordance with the provisions of the constitution, rules and regulations of the church, nor in accordance with the terms of the agreement entered into by the opposing factions for holding said conference, and that all actions of said conference are null and void.

4. That Rev. Eli Tartt is not a member of said church, nor is he the pastor of the same; and said Tartt is enjoined and restrained from exercising the authority of said pastor, but this does not prevent him from serving as pulpit supply as he was doing prior to his election as pastor January 11, 1909.

5. The case is referred to a commissioner of the court, who is required to ascertain and report to the court a true and correct roll of the membership of said church, and who is directed to hold a regular business meeting of the church, using the roll prepared by him for the election of trustees and officers of the church, the time for holding said meeting to be fixed by the court.

The decree in the case will be entered to-morrow, and the commissioner to be appointed is to be satisfactory to both factions.

WANTED—A WELL PREPARED Stenographer and Skilled Book-keeper, must come well recommended in the art and profession as above outlined. Apply to the EQUITABLE REAL ESTATE CO., INC., No. 502 North Third Street, Richmond, Va.

—Subscribe to The PLANET.

## INSTALLATION EXERCISES

Seven Hundred Inducted into Office. Brilliant Scenes at the Ebenezer Baptist Church. The Grand Chancellor Speaks.

The installation exercises at the Ebenezer Baptist Church last Tuesday night were a grand success. About seven hundred officers were installed and at no time was there the slightest embarrassment or hitch in the exercises. It was 9 o'clock when Grand Chancellor John Mitchell, acting also as Grand Worthy Counselor, sounded the gavel and it was 10:55 when the benediction was announced.

The scriptures were read and prayer offered by Rev. J. R. Griffin, Hymns were sung, Dr. J. Alexander Lewis, Grand Master at Arms leading in the same. Grand Chancellor John Mitchell, Jr. spoke about three-quarters of an hour telling about the work of the Grand Lodge and the Grand Court at Bristol, Va. He also spoke of the work of the Mechanics' Savings Bank. He was listened to with rapt attention.

At the conclusion of his remarks, he proceeded to install the large crowd of officers who had occupied every seat in this spacious edifice. He was assisted in this by District Deputy Grand Chancellor S. S. Baker and District Deputy Grand Worthy Counselor Anna Taylor. The rostrum was decorated with palms and flowers. On the rostrum was a large portrait of Grand Chancellor John Mitchell, Jr.

Harmony and contentment were manifested throughout the exercises. A vote of thanks was tendered to the Committee of Arrangements, consisting of Miss M. L. Chiles, chairman, Mrs. Anna Taylor, Mrs. Lucy Cross, Mrs. Mildred Johnson, Sir O. M. Steward, Major John G. Smith, Captain Willis Wyatt and Sir S. S. Baker, and also the Ebenezer Baptist Church. The benediction was announced by Rev. W. T. Johnson, D. D.

## GRAND TIMES THERE

The Fourth Baptist Church Opening. White Talent in Evidence.

The opening of the Fourth Baptist Church with improvement, Mr. Charles Russell, architect, will be signalled by a grand concert given by white talent, Tuesday night, 8:30 o'clock, July 26th as follows:

That kind of entertaining songsters, Capt. Frank W. Cunningham; Mrs. John Murphy, the charming soprano of Beth Ababa Synagogue, Miss Patricia Isaac, that sweet voiced contralto, of the Grace Street Baptist Church, Mr. William Boschen, of the Grove Avenue Baptist Church, with his heavenly tenor, Mr. Oscar E. Lohman, of Grove Avenue Baptist Church, with his soul-stirring bass, and Mr. Kirk Matthews who is guaranteed to get all of the music worth hearing out of any organ in the world. Go and hear them.

## An Appeal to the Generous Public and All Lovers of the Cause of Christ.

Key West, Fla., July, 1910.

The Editor of The Richmond Planet:

On October 11th, 1909, our city was visited by the most destructive hurricane in its history; at which time our Newman Methodist Episcopal Church was entirely destroyed, entailing a loss of at least \$3000. Our membership is poor and not very large, and we have ascertained that because of the high price of labor and material, we cannot rebuild for less than \$6,000.

Our church, a large and spacious building, was completed at a great cost and sacrifice to our church people and loving community as well as the Church Extension Society of Philadelphia, Pa.

Needless to say we feel our loss keenly; however, we trust that Providence will work out his will and reveal his way. Appeals will be sent to those whom the Lord has blessed with large fortunes as well as those of smaller means. Already the Hon. James P. Tallaferrro, U. S. Senator; Congressman S. M. Sparkman; Judge James W. Locke and others, have donated to this cause.

We have several hundred dollars subscribed, and material on hand, valued at \$1,500, to begin a \$6,000 obligation.

We also owe on lot and old building the sum of \$6,000 and \$200,000 at the date of the storm to the Church Extension Board of Philadelphia, Pa.

We have as our present pastor the Rev. James M. Trammell, a man to whom we have explicit confidence, who has determined to rebuild our church—the Lord willing, and he has been duly authorized to solicit money from the public for this purpose. We trust that everyone having an interest in the cause of Christianity will give as the Lord has prospered them.

Feeling that our cause is a worthy one, and that you may be guided in the proper channel of giving, we refer you to the following: Hon. Geo. W. Allen, President of the First National Bank; Hon. George S. Walke, President Island City National Bank, (both of Key West); Rt. Rev. Jos. B. Berry, Buffalo, N. Y., Presiding Bishop of the Florida Conferences. Any money given to these gentlemen will be turned over to the proper authorities.

Very respectfully,  
Rev. J. M. Trammell, Pastor, Key West, Florida; T. A. Adams M. D., Cor. Sec'y, Key West Florida; Frank Edden Chairman, Rome Dupont, Rev. Jeffrey Grant, Supt. South Florida Mission, Jacksonville, Fla.

Rev. J. M. Trammell, leaves for cities and towns North, August 4th.

Subscribe to The PLANET. Only \$1.50 per year in advance.

## 5TH ST. BAPT. CHURCH.

Located, Cor. 5th and Jackson Sts., RICHMOND, VA.

## Weekly News Column.

REV. W. F. GRAHAM, D. D., Pastor, Residence:

108 E. Leigh St., Richmond, Va.

J. HENRY CRUTCHFIELD, Editor, Office:

1215 E. Broad St., Richmond, Va.

A grand time was had at Fifth Street Baptist Church last Sunday. Pastor Rev. Dr. W. F. Graham occupied his pulpit for the first time since close of the anniversary; coming to his flock fresh from a short vacation and rest; he had wholesome lesson in store for them. He preached a choice sermon embodying many useful lessons which if adhered to and practiced will be avenues to manifold blessings.

At 3:30 o'clock the Pastor and a large number of his members took the Fourth Baptist Church by surprise; at a moment when they thought not the Rev. Dr. W. F. Graham followed by his deacon board and a large body of his members entered the Fourth Baptist Church just as said church was preparing to partake of the Lord's Supper. Their entrance was greeted by bright cheerful countenances and pleasurable bows and given a heartfelt reception.

A lovable time ensued. All were highly elated over this meeting around the Lord's Table. Dr. Evans Payne, presided. Some of the sweetest hymns were sung by different members.

Rev. Dr. Evans Payne after making a few timely remarks suited to the occasion, presented Rev. Dr. W. F. Graham who spoke quite feelingly relative to the church, and the object of the communion at the conclusion of which Bro. Wilber Jefferson sang about, viz: "Fight on Old Warriors, Don't Turn back. Keep Your Sword in Your hand, etc." Other shouts were sung by Brethren Charles Humphrey, Charles Johnson and others.

The Fourth Baptist Church is one of the oldest and one of the most progressive of the churches in this city, with a membership of nearly or about 2,300, all of whom think it an honor to say that "its record is such and the demeanor of its Pastor so pleasant to them, that they have lived together as church and Pastor for thirty years, and that the bond of union between them is as strong and stronger than it was thirty years ago." They are just titillated over the thought of this grand pipe organ. We rejoice with them and our Fifth Street Baptist Church choir will doubt be present at its organ recital Tuesday night, July 26, 1910.

(Owing to the absence of Supt. Prof. B. H. Peyton and Asst. Supt. Mr. R. H. Fauntleroy, both of whom were out of the city, Lawyer J. Henry Crutchfield, acting superintendent, opened the Sunday-school at 10 o'clock. A large number of teachers, officers and scholars were present. Teachers took charge of their classes for twenty minutes. Pastor W. F. Graham made a few encouraging remarks to the school and urged them to bring in new scholars every Sunday. Rev. Dr. S. C. Burrell, secretary Y. M. C. A. made a few timely remarks impressing upon the young minds the importance of being good boys and girls and to attend Sunday-school every Sunday. The Fifth Street Baptist Sunday-school will give its basket picnic at Fulton Park, Wednesday, August 10, 1910.

All the teachers, scholars, and friends will meet at the Fifth Street Baptist Church at 9:30 o'clock and leave in a body. All are invited. Admission in the park, children 5 cents. Adults, ten cents. Be on time next Sunday morning.—E. W.)

Prayer service Wednesday night. Come out on time at 8:30 o'clock. Don't forget B. Y. P. U. Friday night. A good time is expected. Be on time 8:30 o'clock.

Rev. Dr. W. F. Graham and Prof. B. H. Peyton are attending the National Association this week; but will return by Sunday.

Don't forget communion next Sunday at 3:30 o'clock. Come on time.

Pastor will preach next Sunday morning and night.

## Card of Thanks.

Mr. and Mrs. S. W. Robinson wish to thank their many friends for the delightful surprise given them at their residence on Tuesday, July 19, 1910.

Mr. and Mrs. William Dandridge, of New York, N. Y., are the guests of Mrs. Mary Smith, 1013 St. John Street.

Mrs. Media Mason, of Philadelphia, Pa. has been in the city visiting her daughter, Mrs. A. Binga.

## A SECRETARY MEETS MISHAPS

Jack Johnson's Man Has Leg Broken.

To be successful as a secretary to a great man is a hard and notorious job. Usually it is more notorious than hard. But to be the secretary of a champion is more hard than notorious. You act not merely as a buffer between man and man. You are but the most scintillant spark shot forth by a rocketing career.

Jack Johnson, meaning the pugilist laureate as well as laureate after his public reminiscences of a great but indecorous even set out from the theatre in which he appears in an automobile with six white men. Jack took the wheel and let her rip. As he approached the corner of Forty-second street and Eighth Avenue he slowed slightly and his private secretary, Richard J. Comiskey, of 591 Ninth Avenue, clambered to the running board to drop off.

Johnson turned north into Eighth Avenue so sharply that before the private secretary could give a hop, skip and a jump to the curb he was thrown to the pavement, alighting mainly on his game leg, but to some extent on his body. Johnson stopped the car at once and all aboard piled out to pick up the fallen.

"Dick, Dick," Johnson anxiously queried Mr. Johnson anxiously. "No, miss, boom, ah," replied Mr. Comiskey, "but you are. But don't mind me. Pray resume the uneven falsetto of your way. Go as far as you like, and may a cop pinch you for speeding at the termination." "Falsetto?" interrupted the champ. "False setto? 'Wat yo' mean, man? Ah'm heah to succour yo' an' yo' reflect 'pon me."

Here one of the employees of the theatre who was in the car drew the champion aside. After a whispered conference Johnson smiled and said it would be a nice day to-morrow if he it were not excessive. He added that everything would be all right. Mr. Comiskey, prostrate, expressed some doubts of this. And then the champion did a noble thing. Lifting his private secretary as tenderly as if he had been a babe, he placed him in the car and started full speed for Roosevelt Hospital.

Only those who remember Eighth Avenue when the comet was in town can picture the scene that followed. When Roosevelt Hospital was reached the tail of the auto was measured and was found to be composed of thousands of minute black common people whose eyes were distended and who reached from the hospital at Fifty-eighth Street down to Forty-seventh Street. The scientific explanation is that from Forty-second Street to Forty-seventh Street the nucleus was forming.

Policeman Frank Early went over to the hospital with the auto and diligently wrote down in his notebook Mr. Johnson's name, age, occupation (which was put down as simply boxing and may refer to boxing the compass), marital condition and residence, which is Baron Wilkin's cafe, at 253 West Thirty-fifth Street. The policeman also wrote down a few facts about the injured private secretary.

Johnson said he wanted Comiskey to have the best care and he wouldn't take the count on the post. He waited till Dr. Charles N. Dowd, visiting surgeon, could get to the hospital from his home, 127 West Seventy-second Street. Dr. Dowd made an examination and found that the private secretary had sustained a fracture of the left thigh. The unusual pain was due to its being a game leg.

Comiskey will be all right in a short time if he keeps perfectly still and avoids the duties of his office.

## NOTICE!

The Colored Working Woman's Industrial Home and Nursery, which was situated at 516 North Third Street, will be permanently situated at 1513 Taylor Street, between Lady and Lombardy Streets.

We will then be better prepared to accommodate the mothers that work out for their children. The dormitory will also be open for young women.

We will be glad to welcome all of our friends to our new home on Decoration Day, July 26th.

Respectfully,  
Committee on the Home—Mrs. O. A. B. Stokes, Chairman, Mrs. Harriet Johnson, Asst. Chairman, Mrs. Harriet J. Page, Treasurer, Mrs. W. E. Young, Secretary, Mrs. Nancy Lewis, Mrs. R. Violet Crawford, Manager of Christ's Mission Band No. 1.

Subscribe to The PLANET. Only \$1.50 per year in advance.

—The Knights of Khorassan will give a Banquet on the Roof of the Mechanics' Bank, Friday, July 29th.